Attorney's Docket No.: 00414-063001

Applicant: Harold L. Mantius et al.

Serial No. : 09/921,147 Filed : August 2, 2001

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## In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-40. (Cancelled).

\*\* (New) A method comprising:

- (a) providing a flow of fruit juice that is substantially free of insoluble fruit solids;
- (b) dividing the flow of fruit juice into at least a first juice stream, a second juice stream and a third juice stream;
- (c) treating the first juice stream to preferentially remove acidic compounds thereby creating an acids-enriched juice stream and an acids-reduced juice stream;
- (d) combining the acids-reduced juice stream with the second juice stream to create an acids-reduced fruit juice; and  $\bullet$
- (e) combining the acids-enriched juice stream with the third juice stream create an acids-enriched fruit juice.
- 42. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising concentrating the acids-enriched fruit juice by removing a portion of the water therein.
- 43. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising concentrating the acids-reduced fruit juice by removing a portion of the water therein.
  - 44. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein the fruit juice is cranberry juice.
- 45. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein the step of treating the first juice stream comprises nanofiltration.
- 46. (New) The method of claim 41 further comprising combining the acids-enriched fruit juice with a different fruit juice to generate a blended juice product.

(b)

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47\_(New) The method of claim 41\_further comprising combining the acids-reduced fruit juice with a different fruit juice to generate a blended juice product.

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(New) The method of claim 41 further comprising drying the acids-enriched fruit juice to generate an acids-enriched fruit juice powder.

(New) The method of claim 41 further comprising drying the acids-reduced fruit juice to generate an acids-reduced fruit juice powder.

50 (New) A method comprising:

- (a) providing a flow of vegetable juice that is substantially free of insoluble vegetable solids;
- (b) dividing the flow of vegetable juice into at least a first juice stream, a second juice stream and a third juice stream;
  - (c) treating the first juice stream to preferentially remove acidic compounds thereby creating an acids-enriched juice stream and an acids-reduced juice stream;
  - (d) combining the acids-reduced juice stream with the second juice stream to create an acids-reduced vegetable juice; and
  - (e) combining the acids-enriched juice stream with the third juice stream create an acids-enriched vegetable juice.

\$1. (New) The method of claim 50, further comprising concentrating the acids-enriched vegetable juice by removing a portion of the water therein.

52 (New) The method of claim 50, further comprising concentrating the acids-reduced vegetable juice by removing a portion of the water therein.

53. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein the vegetable juice is tomato or pepper juice.

(H)

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54. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein the step of treating a first portion of the vegetable juice comprises nanofiltration.

\$5. (New) The method of claim \$6 further comprising combining the acids-enriched vegetable juice with a different vegetable juice to generate a blended juice product.

56. (New) The method of claim 50 further comprising combining the acids-reduced vegetable juice with a different vegetable juice to generate a blended juice product.

SZ. (New) The method of claim SQ further comprising drying the acids-enriched vegetable juice to generate an acids-enriched vegetable juice powder.

Se. (New) The method of claim of further comprising drying the acids-reduced vegetable juice to generate an acids-reduced vegetable juice powder.

59. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein the step of dividing the flow of fruit juice into at least a first juice stream, a second juice stream and a third juice stream comprising passing the flow of fruit juice through a ration divert mechanism.

(New) The method of claim 50 wherein the step of dividing the flow of vegetable juice into at least a first juice stream, a second juice stream and a third juice stream comprising passing the flow of fruit juice through a ration divert mechanism.

(New) The method of claim \( \frac{1}{4} \) wherein the weight fraction of fruit juice in the first juice stream, a second juice stream and a third juice stream are not the same.